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African Repository,
AND
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VOL. III.

MAY, 1827.

No. 3.

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Address

Delivered before a Society in North Carolina, auxiliary to the Society at Washington, for Colonizing the free People of colour on the Coast of Africa.

THE period at which we live is rendered peculiarly interesting by the many spontaneous associations instituted for humane purposes. Were I to point out that in which ourselves are most seriously and immediately concerned, without hesitation I should say, it is the Society for Colonizing at Liberia, the free coloured people of these United States. It has already been openly and ardently espoused by a large proportion of the virtue, patriotism, Christian sentiment, and practical wisdom of our country. The church of Christ, as we might have supposed, in its various forms throughout our land, has stamped its public sanctions upon the cause, which it is the object of this Society to sustain. It has in many instances enjoined upon its members, and especially upon its ministers, to exert themselves in promoting an object, congenial at once with the spirit of the gospel, and the genius of our civil institutions. Its success will undoubtedly be ever in proportion to the degree in which we shall be essentially actuated

by the charity which the gospel inspires, and to which we owe the origin and continuance of our political privileges. From the numerous motives which animate our zeal, I would select only a very few, to which I would solicit your renewed attention while we are met.

It is an object of our Society to elevate a people existing among ourselves, from a consignment to hopeless ignorance and degradation, to all the privileges, civil and religious, with which God has distinguished us as a people among the nations of the world. While they continue here, subject to their peculiar temptations, and their perpetual depression beneath the foot of society, they can never be saved from the impoverishment and moral corruption, which, with rare exceptions, have to the present hour been their lot. The slavery of other nations, has been that of men of the same complexion with the free. As soon as the slave was released, himself and his descendants might mingle and lose themselves in the general community of their country, undistinguished by any stamp of nature upon their original. But our slavery is such, as that no device of our philanthropy for elevating the wretched subjects of its debasement to the ordinary privileges of men, can descry one cheering glimpse of hope that our object can ever be accomplished. The very commencing act of freedom to the slave, is to place him in a condition still worse, if possible, both for his moral habits, his outward provision, and for the community that embosoms him, than even that, deplorable as it was, from which he has been removed. He is now a freeman; but his complexion, his features, every peculiarity of his person, pronounce to him another doom,—that every wish he may conceive, every effort he can make, shall be little better than vain. Even to every talent and virtuous impulse which he may feel working in his bosom, obstacles stand in impracticable array; not from a defect of essential title to success, but from a positive external law, unreasoning and irreversible. Pre-eminent attainments in knowledge and virtue, in the skill and powers of the mind, are known to be arduous to the amplest opportunity. To prevent men from languishing in the pursuit of these, they need not only the consciousness of faculties competent to such objects, but the cheering voice of friendship and of surrounding witnesses, and a prospect of compassing at last the high rewards

with which others have been crowned, provided they shall assert an indisputable claim. But what shall we think of his condition, who, after having reached, without these quickening motives, by some self-sustaining force, the highest moral and intellectual excellence, is then to be told, that he must stand away, not only from all office in society, (this he might be supposed to disregard,) but from all the social intimacies, the endearing relations, the sympathies,—nay, the very appearance of too easy an intercourse with those around him, except with the beings from among whom, as the dregs of the human race, he has emerged. To this excommunicating interdict he must be made up at last, though by the persevering exertions of many years, he has been disqualifying himself for happiness in any other intercourse, but that from which he is driven. Nor is this all. For when such an eminence shall have been attained, there are multitudes of the humbler sort, who though forced to admit that it is prodigious! will pronounce it to be opportunity misplaced, and direct upon it a jealous vigilance, from whose invidious obloquy no human prudence could escape. Can human nature be expected to sustain itself in conflict with such difficulties as these; and not be disheartened under a sense of their invincible perpetuity.

In every instance in which we aid the removal of a fellow-creature from such circumstances, is it not an act of humanity to himself and his children, of benefit to the community from which he is taken; promising incalculable blessings to the individuals, and to the society of which they become constituent members?

We may farther remark in the next place, that to remove these persons from among us, will increase the usefulness, and improve the moral character of those who remain in servitude, and with whose labours the country is unable to dispense. That instances are to be found of coloured free persons, upright and industrious, is not to be denied. But the greater portion, as is well known, are a source of malignant depravity to the slaves on the one hand, and of corrupt habits to many of our white population on the other. The arts of subsistence with many of them, are incompatible with the security of property. It is a well known fact, that an intelligent and wealthy individual in our own State, has voluntarily pledged himself to pay the sum of ten dollars, to aid every free coloured person in the town in which he lives, who

shall at any time resolve to become a member of the Colony.— This promise is assumed under a conviction on his part, that in every instance of incurring this payment, even his temporal interest will be consulted, by cutting off a drain from his estate, and a channel of depravation to his slaves. But such also are the tone and character of his moral feeling, that eminently united with these motives, are a love of the public good, the virtue of society, and the elevation of a degraded class of beings to the privileges of freemen, which, though free, they can never enjoy, and to the prospects of a happy immortality.

How difficult, how utterly impossible is it, that the families or individuals of this degraded race in our towns and cities, and in other parts of our country, should persist in habits of integrity and a pure life, against the temptations of dissoluteness and guile. Some are waiting the opportunity, which it is the object of this Society to afford, but which they must depend on the enlightened liberality of a Christian people to supply. * This, as yet, is the channel through which this benevolence must flow. To every willing individual we look as a source, from which its waters must spring.

There is another topic, to which, communing as I am with christian feeling, I would invite your attention, confident on this account, that it will be appreciated. To the same measures, commended by the advantages we have been contemplating, we may look with peculiar satisfaction for the instant diminution, and final abolition of the slave trade. Long has this hideous traffic been fruitful in woes to Africa, and at once the ignominy and curse of Christendom. Who shall be able even in imagination, to number or measure the crimes which it has multiplied? Its dark and malignant mischiefs, both moral and political, early fell on us, through the inconsistency of a government, which first forced them upon our country, and has since pleased to reproach us, as though not they, but ourselves had been the authors. Let us not only unite our voices with the now combining nations of Europe, against this barbarian depravity of the foulest form, but let us prove the sincerity of our declarations by the alacrity of our exertions, and the sacrifices of our interest. Let even a chain of colonies be successively planted along the African coast. By these the slave trade will be more effectually suppressed, than by all the

naval vigilance and expenditure that can be employed in guarding it.

By the last estimate of our population, the number of free coloured people in our country was two hundred and fifty thousand, and they are since increased. Hundreds of these stand ready to embark, as soon as the means shall be supplied.— The materials of colonization are abundant from every part of the union. A colony is already established, and the history of its vicissitudes, by which it has arrived at its present flourishing state, has determined the means and the certainty of success.— A general movement is made through our country. An energetic spirit of advancement is diffusing itself through the nation. Shall we hesitate to enter into so rich a feast as is here open for our participation? Shall we not contribute every influence we can hope to exert, to enlarge the rising state, and augment its prosperity? The time may yet be distant when the results to which we look shall be fully realized. But can we repress the rising wish, that we may still see something of that which we anticipate for ourselves and for Africa. The slave trade must necessarily retire before the growth of this enterprise. By recent accounts, even in its present infancy, several stations for carrying on that trade have been broken up by the forces of the Colony. The descendants of those very people whom once it transported into strange and distant servitude, are returning to that benighted land, with the knowledge of revelation and civil liberty, to abolish it forever. The evils under which Africa has groaned for ages, are by the reciprocating wisdom of God's providence, by methods sudden and unforeseen, converted into the most efficient instrumentality for their final extinction, and for returning into her bosom blessings numberless and inestimable. They who have once been slaves, shall by such an evolution of events, plant civilization and freedom on the very soil where barbarism had stricken its roots most deeply, and its branches had shot most widely; wasting the nations with its poisonous fruits, and withering shade.

This enterprise is interesting by other motives and prospects which it opens to our view. It addresses itself with peculiar force to those who would promote the missionary cause. Were this our object, and this alone, is there any other method of evan-

gelizing heathen lands, promising results comparable with those of the Liberian Colony? By great expense, provided with difficulty, an individual or two may be sent into a heathen country. With all his privations, his watchful labours, his precarious life, the time and funds necessary to the attainment of language, he holds up a feeble and glimmering taper, scarcely discernible through the thick gloom of pagan darkness that covers the land. How different is the scene lighted up by a colony of Christians on the coast of Africa, of the same origin and complexion with the natives of the country. Not only does it carry with it, the religion of the gospel, but exhibits its institutions and all its benignant effects upon society. Here is no glimmering taper, ready to disappear with an individual, or to be extinguished by the breath of an enemy. It is a glorious beacon, beaming with a broad, and vivid, and constant splendor, indefinitely into the interior of an extensive continent overspread with the darkness of heathenism. Churches are erected, and the vows of assembled Christians ascend to the living and true God, perfumed by the incense of the Saviour's sacrifice. The native, whose mind has been enveloped in the night of witchcraft and superstition, approaches this novelty. He listens for the first time to the prayer poured forth to the omnipresent and invisible Being, the Creator of the world, and of man to possess it,—of the beasts of the field, the fowls of the air, and of all which have their paths in the seas. For the first time he hears distinctly of the glories of that mercy, which is shown to our lost and guilty world, in the redemption of Jesus Christ. His vision becomes illuminated—its dimness is passing away. The arts of sorcery, and the delusions of satan are dispersed from the firmament where he had reigned for ages. They dissolve before the power of Him who is now about to establish his throne of purity and light, and righteousness, and peace for the salvation of all who trust in him. The gospel is propagated at length to the successive tribes of the continent, now but little known to geography. When we consider the effects thus produced, with materials worse than useless among ourselves, shall we not be consoled—nay, even rejoice, that while we have been so long suffering under the evils reciprocally inflicted upon one another, so ample a compensation is thus discovered in the opportunity of spreading the blessings of

Christianity and civilization to nations that for ages have been sitting in darkness and the shadow of death.

I pretend not to say that these consequences, in all their extent, can be accomplished by the Society alone. But the time must come when more ample means shall be provided: when an irresistible sentiment shall be felt by the people, impelling the government to assume to itself an enterprise commenced and thus far prosecuted with success. A number of the states have already instructed their members in congress to apply the resources of the country to these great and inspiring objects.— They are objects necessary to our prosperity, worthy of our glory, and incumbent on us as a Christian people. Shall we not hope that the Legislature of North Carolina, which has so deep an interest in this plan of benevolence and sound policy, will unite in the call to her senators and representatives, to delay no longer its active prosecution.

In the mean time, let us be habitually mindful, that much must depend upon every one of us, in maintaining the practical operations of the Colonization Society, that its success may be more eminent, and the reasons by which it is actuated may bear with full conviction upon the public mind. We are involved in awful responsibility, if we act not according to the plain indications of our duty on this subject. It cannot now be said, as it once was, that the free people of colour will not consent to such a measure. A far greater number than can be sent by the funds of the Institution, are earnestly desiring it; their numbers are annually enlarged; and this has been invariably true from the beginning. It cannot now be said, that the climate will destroy them. The first situation of the Colony was most unpropitious; yet the mortality even there was not greater than in many parts of our own country. No more can it be asserted, that the natives will not permit the settlement, and that the colonists will perish miserably by the hands of savages. The experiment is made, the obstacles have been overcome, the Colony is impregnable; it is courted and frequented by the natives for commercial intercourse, and for the education of their children.

Among the numerous difficulties originally objected to the plans and prospects of the Society, to make them appear visionary, was the probable defect of competent funds. Had the So-

ciety ever proposed or promised, that all the free coloured people of our country were to be conveyed to Africa, and provided for there by such contributions as were to come into its treasury, it would have merited the imputation of extravagance, thought by some to be its due. The sincere and frank expositions which it has ever given upon this point, have surely had a just claim to a more liberal credit than has fallen to its lot. Instead of indulging in complaint respecting these misconceptions of its proper object, we have reason to rejoice in the countenance and success which heaven has bestowed, as the reward of its exertions, in what we deemed to be the cause of humanity and patriotism. The funds of the Society have never failed so as to prevent it from advancing steadily in the fulfilment of its plans and its contracts. It feels new accessions of strength from year to year. Its Auxiliaries and its existing resources, have already ascertained that the Colony now begun, will continue to grow as time shall advance. Whoever of us may withhold his aid, God will find those whose hearts will be ardent and faithful in the fulfilment of a plan, on which the charity of the gospel is impressed in conspicuous characters. But, no; we shall not be the last in a work, which, as soon as contemplated in all its magnitude and its consequences, other nations might envy the power and the privilege peculiarly ours to perform. Every individual whom by our contributions we shall assist to become a colonist, is added to the strength of a commencing nation, which at no distant period, will be contemplated with admiration and delight. If such anticipations seem excessive, their extravagance will disappear by a bare reference to the recent origin of this nation, its popular governments, the pure and primitive simplicity of its religion, and the expansiveness of its annual growth. At least, in the indulgence of such prospects, a consciousness must attend them, that they are the offspring of a virtuous and Christian charity; deriving authority from revelation, and from the analogy of the great and advancing changes with which God has long been confirming the faith of his people. The subject is of a nature to call into action the purest feelings of our bosoms. Behold a prostrate portion of our fellow-men, perishing themselves amidst the light and sound of the gospel; and through the peculiarity of their helpless and hopeless circumstances, spreading a contaminating

influence to the poor and ignorant around them. Many have had their eyes opened to their deplorable condition. On bended knees they are seen upon our shores; their hands are stretched towards Africa, and with a voice of entreaty, they ask of us the pittance that is necessary, and which, though small from each, would be sufficient by the confluence of our charity, to place them where they may no longer be a scourge and a curse to us, and where they may be allowed to enjoy the privileges of an independent community. The thousands that might follow them, could they witness their departure, hear of their success, and be quickened by their example, are here languishing under a sentence of degradation. Let their cry enter our ears, and move our compassion. Let the cries of Africa, after her long protracted sufferings from the scourge of slavery, at length be heard from her distant shore, beseeching us to take part in this work of mercy. Is it not charity to press forward an enterprise portending the present welfare and the eternal prospects of thousands, perhaps millions, otherwise left to sink from the privileges of the gospel and the hopes of its redeeming mercy? In the day to which, as Christians, we all look forward, when we hope to exult in the awards of a happy immortality, must we not think that it will be a subject of inestimable satisfaction, if we can look round upon a multitude whom no man can number, through exertions such as we are now endeavouring to combine, made heirs of glory, and saying, Alleluia, for thou, O Lord, hast redeemed us by thy blood, and we shall rejoice forever in thy presence.

Bissao.

Africa is not without its uses. It furnishes an army of slaves to work the diamond mines of Brazils; and to prepare for the punishment of their oppressors, the liquid fire of the West Indies. When these luxuries have fulfilled the intentions of the great author of sin, in corrupting the morals of half the civilized world, giving some hundreds of thousands to an untimely grave, other multitudes to the halter and the knife of the anatomist, and filling the prisons of Europe and America, with a million or two

of the most corrigible class of their victims; this same Africa comes again into requisition; and serves admirably as a place of exile for two other descriptions of people,—one of which the laws spare in mercy, the other through weakness from their more prompt and summary vengeance. With the latter, who are voluntary exiles from friends, country, civilization, Christian examples, and the sanctuaries of God, this coast abounds. Some have lost their character, and come here, where they may exist without one: Some their property, and come here to escape their creditors: Some their conscience, and come to engage in pursuits for which their loss is a necessary qualification: Some have lost;—in one word, *all* have either lost, or never yet found, what a paroxysm of madness or despair have driven them to seek in vain in this horrible region—their happiness. Corrupt example finishes speedily their moral depravation. A savage country and sickly climate as speedily complete what was wanting to their physical wretchedness—leaving out of the account the 50 per centum at least of the whole number who are swept away by accidents and fevers during the first two years.

The involuntary exiles are not so numerous. These are the monuments of legal mercy—not quite deserving of death in Europe, judicial tenderness has sent them to find a grave in Africa. Not one in ten survives a twelvemonth after their arrival—they are commonly sent to the most forlorn and unhealthy situations, and die of the united effects of famine, filth, fever and despair. Excepting officers, the European part of the population of Bissao, are persons of this description. They receive from the Portuguese Government a miserable monthly allowance of Tobacco, Rum, and other articles suitable to barter with the natives for Yams, Rice and Fish—amounting in all to about 3 dollars per man. And out of this pittance they must feed, clothe, medicate and content themselves as they can. Woe to the wretch that falls sick. He is carried off alive to death's antechamber—a building constructed of mud and stone, covered with thatch, floored with earth, and having neither bedstead, table, chair, stool nor blanket in it! It is misnamed a hospital. I visited it last Sunday with the commandant of the place. About thirty miserales lay stretched on the ground, with nothing under them but a thin mat—and are abandoned without nurse, medicine or physician

to almost inevitable death.—I urged, insisted upon the addition of some little conveniences that could be supplied without expense—almost without trouble—but was coldly given to understand that 30 multiplied by three, is 90 dollars a month—and that this sum into 12, is 1080 dollars per annum, which would be saved the revenue of his most faithful Majesty, by leaving the hospital in its present state, every month in the year! So little is the life of these outcasts regarded, that I remained more than two weeks after my arrival, ignorant that there was a sick soldier in the place; and ascertained the fact only, in consequence of particular inquiry. Not having had information of any deaths among them, it was not a week since, that I asked if the sick never die in the hospital? “O, daily;” was the cold reply.—I have since learnt, that when a death occurs in the hospital, it excites no more concern than any other occurrence which would cause an expense equal to that of putting a dead body under ground, and require an entry in the books of the garrison. The astonishing indifference with which the loss of human life is here regarded, is the necessary effect of that depravity of morals which is so universal, undoubtedly: but it has its origin more directly in the practice which use has long rendered familiar to the inhabitants, of trafficking in human flesh. Whatever regards the health and life of their fellow-beings, is so intimately associated in their minds, with the calculation of pecuniary advantage, that the death even of their relatives and friends, seems only to affect them as it refers to considerations of this nature.

The whole number of convicts, all of whom are enrolled on the garrison books, and compelled to do the duty of soldiers, attached to Bissao and its dependencies, is about 250. Half of these are from Lisbon—the balance, coloured people and negroes, from the Cape Verde Islands. The whites, being of the most degraded class of the vicious, in an old European city—long accustomed to punishment, disgrace and guilt,—and enervated by an unnatural climate—are perhaps of all the human race, the most depressed, spiritless and refuse. Considered as animals, the veriest reptiles are their superiors. Many are afflicted with incurable and loathsome diseases, the consequences of their present and former dissoluteness—all have been transformed to cadaverous spectres, by sickness. Ignorant, despairing, unprincipled,

if they have not energy sufficient to commit crimes, they have scarce a restraining motive remaining to save them from wallowing in the most swinish vices. The black convicts may have earned their exile by crimes abstractly viewed, of equal flagrancy; but as committed by them, are by no means the same evidences of entire depravity as if perpetrated by Europeans. Consequently, though punished, they are not degraded as the latter. They submit with a manly fortitude to the necessary inconveniences which follow, as natural consequences, their past actions—but never feel the stinging ignominy, which, associating itself with the idea of punishment in the minds of more enlightened people, produces a consciousness of self-degradation, much less tolerable than the simple penalty. They have still a hope of extricating themselves from the physical evils of their situation—and these overcome, they feel, and they apprehend, no others. The spirit of the man is more than equal to the weight which oppresses it: but “a wounded spirit who can bear?” The blacks are also comparatively at home. The climate and mode of life, to which their exile subjects them, scarcely differ from that to which they have always been accustomed. They are still men—and retain the consciousness, the hopes, and the vigour, physical and mental, of the species. Let the pitiable pride which fancies the colour of the white man’s skin, a certificate of his superiority written by the hand of the Creator, and legible to the most unlettered, make a voyage to Bissao. It would here receive an impressive lesson in opposition to the prejudice, administered by convincing matter of fact; which, if it did not cure, would at least moderate it. Here a black man would resent the insult of being stigmatized a white. Our colour is here *prima facie* evidence of our contemptibleness—and that, not of prejudice, but for solid reasons, which even our own pride cannot question. The whites themselves of Bissao, infer worse of a white man of whom they know nothing but his colour, than of a black man equally unknown—worse even, than we infer at home of the blacks of our own country. The slaves of America may console themselves with the consciousness of possessing such qualities as exalt human nature, and give the lie to the prejudice which would deprive them of them on the equivocal testimony of colour alone. But here it is not prejudice, it is reason, it is fact, which obliges us to reverse the rule of judg-

ment; and regard the black man's colour presumptive evidence of his physical and intellectual pre-eminence!—These facts are indeed sufficient to show the folly of some of our prejudices; but, it must be confessed, that human nature is here exhibited in too degraded and rude a state, to serve as the grounds of any very just conclusions, in regard to the inquiries which may very reasonably be instituted as to the comparative endowments and faculties of the inhabitants of two distant quarters of the globe.

To the terms we employ in this inquiry we are apt to attach difficulties too vague and general ever to admit of any other than speculative conclusions. What do we mean by "natural endowments?" If the advantages for a development of the faculties of the mind—for acquiring knowledge and virtue, with which the negro and the white man come into existence; the question is self-determined, if we allow a preference for these ends, to a civilized, over a savage state of society. African society is rude, ignorant, vicious. Society in Europe and the United States, is not in an equal degree either the first or the second—and to the last there are ten thousand noble exceptions which may be sought in vain, in Africa. If by natural endowments be meant, as commonly are, the advantages possessed by the black and the white man for developing their mental powers, who shall be born to the same state of society, and subjected to the same process of education; here, again, I say, it is not possible to establish the equality in fact, which the hypothesis presumes. Who can so temper all the motives, aids, and stimulants which shall apply themselves to the understanding and heart of a young white, in the bosom of a society of white men, as to render them exactly equal in kind and in efficacy to the excitements which a young negro would feel in the same society? The odds would be immense; and would be against the progress and improvement of the latter. Plunge the white child into the heart of African barbarism, and the disadvantage might be on his side, but a similar disparity of advantages would remain. If the question is still limited to the supposition of a perfect equality and uniformity of operation, of every circumstance extraneous to the persons of the two individuals; by becoming absolutely impossible, it would admit only of a conclusion still more conjectural and speculative. I, however, should reply to the question so put, on the ground of

fact. Observation teaches us that there is a certain character and conformation of the features and animal constitution more favourable to the perfect development of mind, than others. It likewise teaches us that a refined state of society gives not only to the individual who enjoys it, this animal adaptation to the efforts of intellect; but in a succession of generations, improves in these respects, the species itself. The features of a negro show us at first view, much of the animal, but little of the intelligent essence of man. Those of the white man, being the effect of the long application of civilization in meliorating the animal part of the species itself; discover to us as naturally, the radiations of mind. I do not here limit my argument to the colour of the skin, but to all the animal organs and properties of man by which the mind acts. Civilize the negro race to the same degree, and for an equal number of generations, as the white man, be he white or black at the end of the period; and I will believe him equal then, and not before, to the white man who has enjoyed the same means of amelioration.

J. A.

Bissao, June 4th, 1824.

Notes on Africa.

SERPENTS.

This odious tribe of animals, is numerous in Liberia, and offers a greater variety than is to be found in any part of the United States. But, from an invincible constitutional repugnance to researches in this department of animated nature, I have made too few observations, and conducted these with too little nicety, to be able to add much to the stock of information, contained in the general descriptions of the coast already extant.

The BOA CONSTRICTOR, although not venomous, is certainly the most terrific species of the serpent kind, *having a real existence*, which the human imagination has ever been taught to dread in this or any other country. But through a benevolent provision of nature, either the species is not prolific—is liable to great

diminution, from the difficulty of obtaining a regular and sufficient supply of food for its enormous consumption—or its general habits are recluse and inactive in the extreme; as the Boa, although known to exist here, and committing occasional ravages among the wild and sometimes the domestic animals of the country, is seldom met with. Its method of seizing and masticating its food, is well known to be nearly peculiar, and hardly admits of a simple description without reviving in a mind susceptible of classical recollections, the legends of fabulous monstrology.—But to the accuracy with which the habits of the Boa have been stated by approved naturalists, and travellers respectable for their judgment and veracity, it is in my power to add the concurrent testimony of as many of the natives of this country as I recollect to have spoken with on the subject. In so plain a matter of fact, they certainly cannot labour under ignorance or mistake. And the circumstance itself, of the agreement of so many persons belonging to different and distant tribes, in every particular of their accounts of this formidable serpent, amounts to full evidence of their substantial truth and accuracy.

The carcase of an individual of this species, in a state of putrescence, was discovered in September, 1823, extended nearly at length, on the naked rocks, near the extremity of Cape Mesurado. It measured, including both extremities, thirty-two feet in length. Its size, down to a near approach to the tail, was nearly uniform; and in its then collapsed and shrivelled state, varied little from eight inches in diameter. The process of decay, which it was beginning to undergo, must have affected its colour, as it had very considerably the consistency of all the perishable parts of the animal. But the former appeared to have been a dark brown, variegated with large irregular patches of a lighter hue. Its destruction could be traced to no certain cause. But if a conjecture may be allowed from the place in which its carcase was found, it would be ascribed most naturally to starvation. The elevated rocks on which it lay, about thirty yards from a precipice of half the same elevation, which overhangs the ocean, form the extreme point of the Mesurado Peninsula, which is many miles in extent, and, in few places, more than one mile across. Our recent occupation of this isthmus, had nearly expelled from the cape the numerous wild animals which had for-

merly made it their favourite resort—and in the same degree had cut off from this terrible devourer other food, with which their slaughter appears to have supplied him.

It is somewhat remarkable, but no uncomfortable circumstance, that no traces of any other animal of this species, has been since discovered on the Peninsula.

Of other serpents, that oftenest met with, is a black snake, about two yards in length, and two to four inches in diameter. Its haunt is about the banks of rivers; and it is reported to be strictly amphibious.

In sailing the Junk, and the unsettled parts of the Mesurado river, snakes of this species are often seen in great numbers—sometimes six, ten, and even twenty in an hour, coiled singly about the branches of trees overhanging the water. In this situation, their appearance is that of a compact knot about the size of a large hat-crown, swelling irregularly out of the branch to which it attaches; and would seldom attract the notice of a stranger in the country, but that the head and neck are projected a few inches above the coil, in an attitude of menacing vigilance. On the near approach of your boat, every fold is shook out as by a single movement; and the snake disappears below the water, into which it suddenly throws itself. They have been known to fall into the canoes of the natives; whose only means of safety, on the occurrence of such an accident, consist in the instant abandonment of their little bark to the sole possession of its new occupant, by plunging themselves into the water. The bite of this snake is highly venomous.

Scarcely less malignant is that of a small green snake, usually encountered in dry situations, and in the concealment of thick herbage, or the foliage of low bushes. Its length seldom exceeds twenty inches. It commonly avoids the approach of other animals; but seldom fails to inflict its poisonous bite when suddenly disturbed by them.

In January, 1824, one of the Africans belonging to the Agency, suffered the bite of one of these snakes, upon which he had accidentally set his foot, a few inches above the heel. I saw him about twenty minutes afterwards. The poison had already produced a painful inflammation, which commencing at the wound, had perceptibly ascended the leg, as high as the knee.

At the end of an hour, the whole limb was badly swelled, and the pain become very severe. The only antidote administered, was olive oil. A large dose of this was swallowed by the patient; and a plentiful application of it made to the wound, and contiguous parts. A gradual mitigation of the symptoms followed; and in a few hours after, complete relief was obtained.

The Land Snake, which in this country holds the place of the Black Snake of the middle and southern parts of the United States, is a little larger in all his dimensions, but less active and formidable. His head and body are of an uniform and beautiful light green colour—and his belly of a bright yellow, sprinkled, in the mature animal, with brown spots. This snake sometimes makes a temporary stand when closely pressed by an assailant; but never pursues, until highly exasperated. His bite is severe, and tenacious; leaving the impression of his two fangs about one and a half inch asunder, and nearly half an inch deep.

About the 10th of October, 1826, a young Bassa labourer, employed in clearing a plantation near Monrovia, was unfortunately bitten by a full grown snake of this species, on the side of his leg, about eight inches above the ankle. He immediately went in quest of one of his countrymen similarly employed on a neighbouring plantation; and, after half an hour's search, found out his friend in time to save his life: for the whole limb was by this time in a state of high inflammatory action. The arteries were visibly distended—pulsation laboured—and the necessary attendant symptoms of fever and swelling, were rapidly travelling upwards to the vital parts of the system. Mr. W., who was present, and suffered no circumstance of so interesting a case to escape his observation, related, that the person to whom the patient had applied for relief, instantly furnished himself with an ample mouthful of the inner bark of the African cherry-tree,* which he reduced by chewing, until the juice and pulpy residue of the filaments mixed with saliva, were judged sufficient to neutralize so much of the poison as he should be able to extract at one application from the wound. Meantime he had di-

* So called from the very near resemblance of its fruit, both in size, form, colour, and flavour, to the red cherry of temperate countries. In other properties the two trees very much differ from each other.

rected his patient to recline in an easy posture, and with the edge of a sharpened piece of wood, laid open to the utmost, the orifices of the wounds. He now applied his mouth to them, and extracting as much of the poison as possible, received it into the liquid provided for the purpose, and discharged both together after every application, without sustaining the least inconvenience. Replenishing his mouth with the juice of the bark, and laying open afresh the orifices of the wounds, he renewed the effort, and repeated it as often as the symptoms of his patient showed it to be necessary. To determine the effect of every effort, it was noticed that he pressed his finger with some force upon the femoral artery, and attentively observed the gradual abatement in the action of this vessel. The second application afforded very sensible relief: and after six or eight, all the symptoms of inflammation caused by the poison had disappeared—and, excepting an unusual languor, which very naturally succeeded to so strong and painful an excitement, the wounded person was able to return to his work in his usual health.

J. A.

Monrovia, November 2d, 1826.

LEATHER DRESSING.

Among the very few arts which the natives of this country, assisted by the superiority of its materials, or conducted by accident, have carried to an admirable degree of perfection, are the *dying process* and the *dressing of Leather*. The former, although applied chiefly to the cloth manufacture, is often performed on the latter material when it is intended for ornamental uses. But the utility of the tanning process, and the proper method of conducting it, are in no country better understood: and in none is it better performed, or, owing to the superior excellence of the astringents employed, completed in a shorter time. The vagrant Mandingoes, who are the depositories of nearly all the literature, religion, and arts of this portion of Africa, are the most skilful and frequent operators in this as the other branches of mechanical ingenuity. And in all the specimens which I have examined, I have had to admire the perfection with which the

combination of the tanning matter with the staple of the skin, has been effected. Skins and hides tanned by these people, I believe will sustain a comparison in this respect with the best English bend leather, which is well known to be subjected to a process that keeps it several years in the vats.

It was readily discovered, on inquiry, that the barks employed by these people, are those of a species of the plumb, and the common marsh mangrove. The last has been sometimes shipped from the coast in quantities, to supply the tanneries of England, and is thought to be superior to the bark of the oak. But it appears to be less used in this country than that of the (vulgar) *Rusty-coated Plumb*.

Having an abundance of goat and kid skins in the Colony, which command a price abroad not sufficient to repay the expense of preserving them, it has for some years been a matter of solicitude with me, to find out some way of disposing of them more useful than the common one of delivering them over from the butcher's hands, to be haired, roasted, and eaten, by our native labourers.

Daniel George from Philadelphia, although nearly unacquainted with the method, and wholly ignorant of the principles of the tanning business, was induced, in the early part of the present year, to make an experiment with half a dozen skins, in which he employed the plumb bark. The process was effected in four weeks; and the skins exposed weekly to the air. But it was discovered that they had suffered from not having been oftener stirred—the combination of the tannin was imperfect, and the leather was without its proper, and an uniform degree of strength. Subsequent trials made with the same bark, have succeeded better—its superior qualities have been established beyond any doubt, with which the testimony of the Mandingoes respecting it might have been received.

But we claim the merit of a very useful discovery in relation to the tanning business, as we expect it to be soon carried on in the Colony. Lewis Crook, an observant farmer, in preparing some building materials, had occasion to remark the extreme bitterness and highly astringent properties of the bark of a species of the African poplar. In both these qualities it seemed not only to vie with, but if possible surpass the Peruvian bark it-

self. Seizing upon the circumstance, he immediately founded upon it, an experiment with several deer and goat skins laid together in a cask having the requisite quantity of the poplar bark. They were regularly exposed at intervals of four days, until the whole were most perfectly tanned—the goat skins, in three—the deer, in four weeks.

This leather has been formed into shoes, and proves as strong, pliable, and beautifully grained, as any from the same kind of skins which I have ever examined or used of American manufacture—and decidedly superior to most.

An experienced tanner and currier from Virginia, is preparing an extensive establishment for carrying on his business—and is at the present time hindered from commencing it, only by the want of a few tools, which, unfortunately, cannot be made, nor obtained for him in the Colony.

J. ASHMUN.

November 9, 1826.



Practicability of the Colonization Scheme.

Extracts from an article published in the "Kentucky Reporter."

The Colony lately begun at Mesurado is now from 4 to 5 years old—a few ships annually visit there—perhaps 12. It must, of course, have experienced all the usual inconveniences of early settlements, arising from mismanagement, sickness, war, and similar distresses, not likely to occur again at a more advanced period. Yet still, already, plenty, comfort, and neatness, are found in the houses and at the tables of the settlers. Every family, and almost every grown person in the Colony, has the means of employing from one to four native labourers, at from 4 to 6 dollars per month. Several have, on public emergencies, made advances of from three to six hundred dollars.

Carpenters, masons, smiths, although poor workmen, get two dollars a day. Common labourers from 75 cents to \$1 25, and even these prices cannot procure a sufficiency.

A fort has been erected, superior to any force that can be brought against it.

Two schooners of 10 tons each have been built for the coasting trade. Two churches and five schools are built. The proficiency of the scholars attending the latter, is said strongly to mark the difference between the studies of a free person contrasted with those of a slave.

The religious character of these poor people is flattering, but not surprising. Distant from friends, and surrounded by savages, it is not strange if their eyes are directed to Him who alone can befriend them. Feelings like these heighten their devotion to that degree, that the Director of the Colony declares that he has seen, at their meetings, the profanest foreigner that ever entered the Colony trembling with awe and conviction. The natives evince the good effects of this. They bring their children to be educated by the Colonists. Sixty are already in their schools. They deliver up malefactors, and seem to express a confidence in our people unequalled, except, perhaps, under Penn's government.

Ivory and camwood, perhaps some rice and coffee, form at present the greater part of their exports. Yet the country could, if cultivated, furnish all the articles afforded by tropical climates. The land in the interior is excellent. The present number of Colonists is 4 or 500—and their last year's exports amounted to nearly \$50,000.

If, agreeably to the above statement, four or five hundred persons employ one hundred labourers, at from 4 to 6 dollars per month, may we not reasonably infer that, if the Colonists were 10,000 in number, they would be well able to pay the passage of 2000 negroes? They would find this much cheaper than to employ native labourers, whose wages are from 48 to 72 dollars per annum. The passage of a negro from America may be defrayed for 25 dollars, a sum which might be paid by the Colonists, and reimbursed by 6 or 8 months service of the person paid for.—Wealth, we know by experience, increases in a proportion greatly beyond that of population. The number of the people of these States, is probably four times that of those who saw the Revolution. But ten times the estimate in wealth would be greatly below the fact. Presuming upon this axiom in political economy, I am certain that my confidence in the future ability of the Colonists to pay the expense of transportation, is not extravagant.—

The price of labour in the Colony, equal to that in our own new settlements, justifies the certainty of the demand for labourers.

The object before us at present, is to increase the Colony to the amount above stated. After it reaches that number, (10,000,) it may be left to its own means. Its future increase would be rapid. The free negroes, when assured of safety and respectability, would embark in numbers. These people, a nuisance in the free as well as in the slave states, would become a benefit in the country of their ancestors. Every fresh emigrant would leave behind connections, who would as eagerly follow their relations to Guinea, as the Irish emigrant follows his to this country. The difficulty of emigrating is no greater, and the means above suggested would render their removal rapid as well as easy. Irish emigrants never came in such numbers, as when they were permitted to indent themselves for the passage. To this I may add, that there are many who will send their negroes to Guinea, when assured of the Colony's being so well settled as to be out of danger from a foreign foe—such men view their removal as an event desirable to both master and slave; but cannot reconcile it to their feelings, to banish those who have been born in their own house, to a country where they dread the possibility of their perishing by the savage natives.

For the present accomplishment of this object, the funds of the Societies are totally inadequate. The negroes who offer to depart exceed the means of paying their freight. Ought not this to be looked to by the States, or by the Federal Government? Is it not an absolute duty incumbent upon them, to send to the land of their forefathers those who are willing to go? And when we add to this, the absolute necessity of our taking some measures to that effect, is it not amazing that nothing has yet been done?

The Navy costs Government about \$3,000,000 per annum; the Army about 2,000,000; the pay of the Revolutionary veterans 1,500,000. But greatly as our Navy has done honour to our country; valuable as our Army may be, as conducive to our safety; and just as it was to discharge the debt contracted by our ancestors; neither of these considerations, nor all together, have as powerful claims upon us as the establishment of the negro Colony. And when we consider that \$250,000, only once laid out, would place 10,000 souls in the Colony, we must be astonished

that the attention of Congress has never been drawn to a business of such truly vital importance.

Virginia would long since have found her negroes a burthen, had it not been for her continual exports. This disgraceful source of wealth seems likely to be stopped. The Southern States are enacting laws against importation; and however badly such laws may be at first observed, they will assume strength in time. The Virginians will then find that property so contemptible, nay, expensive, that they will cheerfully join in dismissing their slaves, especially when the free labour of white men is offered them on terms much lower than those on which the slave is maintained. Nor is this period so far distant. Fifty years, though much in human life, is little in that of a nation. Thirty years will fill up the country between this and the Pacific.—Twenty more will render the population so dense, and the value of land so high, that the whole of the increasing numbers overflowing from the States north of the Ohio, added to those vast emigrations from the eastern States which are now settling that country, must, as a means of existence, condescend to serve for wages. The purchase of land will be nearly as much out of the question as in Britain. Their labour as hirelings will supplant that of the negroes, provided you make room for them by dismissing people, who have, in the southern States, made labour odious, by blending its name with that of slavery. These once dismissed, you may expect such emigrants as will be content to work for wages, as in the northern States—but not till then. And this cannot be too early set about, the increase of the negroes being so rapid that instant decision is required. Now or never, is the word.

I asserted that a Colony of 10,000 would be equal to paying the passage of 2,000 negroes. I am convinced that I am much too low in my estimation. The data above laid down justify the deduction. But I need only appeal to experience. Where is the new settlement on this continent where the labour of a grown person, male or female, will not command from thirty to fifty dollars per annum? And I have stated the negro's passage at only twenty-five dollars. Fully satisfied with the justness of my statement, I desire my reader to attend to inferences which follow it with mathematical certainty.

If 10,000 Colonists can pay the passage of 2000 per annum, those 10,000 will in five years become 20,000. And here observe that I say nothing of natural increase, which by our own experience, we know will add largely in the same time. The 20,000 would as certainly pay the annual passage of 4000 per annum, thus doubling their own number in five years. Hence, supposing a Colony of 10,000 established, in 5 years they will amount to 20,000—which would pay the passage of 4,000 per annum; and in 5 years would amount to 40,000, who would pay the passage of 8,000; and in 5 years would amount to 80,000, who would pay the passage of 16,000; and in 5 years would amount to 160,000, who would pay the annual passage of 32,000; and in five years would amount to 320,000, who would then be able to clear your whole country of negroes, as fast as you choose to send them. Thus in 25 years you would see yourselves certain of being free from these people.

The time when the African Colony will be able to receive our largest emigrations remarkably coincides with that at which the filling up of the west, will compell the north and north-western States to pour in their swarms, to fill up the void occasioned by the departure of the negroes, and this they would amply perform. The overflowing of from 4 to 5 millions, for less than that number will not line the north-west side twenty-five years hence, would largely replace the annual draft of negroes. Add still to this, the annual increase of New England, and the back counties of New York and Pennsylvania.

In Europe, calculations of this kind were formerly laughed at. Experience was considered as perfectly deciding the question. Voltaire ridiculed the calculations presented by divines, as to the time in which the world might be peopled by natural increase. We see, said he, that the increase of mankind is slow indeed; and against fact, calculation is vain. A late experience in our own country has convinced us, that the experience quoted by Voltaire, is fallacious; and that the calculations despised by him, are irrefragable. Yet his mistake was excusable in that part of the globe, since even in America, 'tis not so long since our wisest politicians talked about our boundless extent of country, which would take centuries to fill up. The last forty years has, however, decided the question. We know with certainty, that in

25 years as many millions of native Americans will appear upon our census. And that number will fill up the void between this and the Pacific. Emigration will then stop, and the distressed multitudes must become hirelings to those who can pay for their labour. I repeat this argument, for I wish it to be noticed.

Thirty years ago, Ohio had 5000 inhabitants. It estimates now, about 700,000. Ten years hence will see a million. Indiana and Illinois are increasing in a like ratio. And yet those States labour under the reputation of sickness, and that justly. Ohio has been settled at an extraordinary expense of human life. The sickness experienced at Mesurado has been trifling, compared with the distresses endured by our ancestors at Jamestown and Plymouth. The same causes acting in our country will operate in Guinea. Let the Colony once be so well established as to ensure safety from the natives; and the negroes, if permitted, will throng thither, and their passage will gladly be paid for by the increasing wealth of the Colonists.

The French Colony at Cayenne was begun, as that nation expresses it, on a grand scale; 12,000 settlers embarked—and almost the whole perished. A few people form the best germ for a Colony. Double or treble their numbers every year, and you will see them thrive. Pour in a larger population than can be provided for, and the whole must perish. In this, nature points out our course: the shoot from an acorn rises at first slowly; but as it acquires strength, it gains beyond conception, at every annual ring, till the insignificant fruit of one short season sees numerous generations enjoy its ample shade. Should Congress and the States take up this business, I would not wish to see more than 500 emigrants leave our coast the first year—the second might admit double that number:—the Colonists could best inform you of their capacity to receive the new comers. But certainly the whole 10,000 might be settled in 5 years, which added to the 25 years stated in the foregoing argument, would bring us to 1856; a period at which we have every reason to believe, that the black Colony will take all we can send, and that white Colonists will be sufficiently numerous to replace those who depart.

Let then the joint Societies for Colonization apply to Congress. Let those in each State apply to their respective Legislatures.—Mean time, let new Societies be formed; let each Society endea-

your to enlarge its sphere of action—and let every individual join himself to a Society. The smallest additional effect is something.



Approbatory Resolutions.

The interest taken by the Clergy of the Methodist Church in the object of our Society, is highly gratifying. The preceding No. of the "Repository" contains the resolution of the Baltimore Conference relating to it; the following are from the New York Conference.

Resolutions of the New York Methodist Annual Conference.

NEWBURGH, MAY 21, 1827.

DEAR SIR:

Your communication to the New York Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, in behalf of the American Colonization Society, was duly received, and laid before that body. As the result of its deliberations on this important and interesting subject, I am happy to forward to you the following copy of Resolutions which stand recorded on the Journals of the Conference, viz.

"*Resolved* 1. That each preacher in charge, be advised, with the consent of the official members, to take up a collection in one or more of the principal congregations of his circuit or station, in behalf of the Colonization Society, on the 4th of July next, or on the Sabbath immediately preceding or succeeding that day.

"*Resolved* 2. That the money collected, be transmitted as soon as possible, to N. Bangs & J. Emory, Agents of the Methodist Book Concern at New York; and by them to be forwarded to the Treasurer of the Colonization Society, after deducting such expenses as they may be at, in receiving and transmitting said monies."

As an individual, permit me to express my earnest and hearty wishes for the success of the Society, in its noble enterprise;

and that the contemplated collections may bear a due proportion in amount, to the importance of the cause, the interests of which they are designed to subserve.

Very respectfully,

Yours, &c.

THOMAS MASON, Sec'y.



Masonic Liberality.

BALTIMORE, MAY 24, 1827.

SIR:

The subscribers, in behalf of Cassin Lodge of Ancient York Masons, enclose you the sum of thirty dollars, voted by that body as a donation to the American Colonization Society; and at the same time, by order of the Lodge, beg leave to express to that Society, through you, the sincere wishes of Cassin Lodge for its continued prosperity, and the promotion of the great work of benevolence in which it is embarked.

To those of Cassin Lodge, we add, with great pleasure, our earnest wishes for the success of the humane and good cause, which the Colonization Society has cherished and advanced.

With great respect,

CHARLES HOWARD.

R. W. GILL.

C. WILLIAMS.

Rev. R. R. GURLEY,

Corresponding Secretary of the Am. Col. Society.

COLUMBUS, MI. APRIL 21, 1827.

Rev. R. R. GURLEY.

Dear Sir:

In obedience to the will of the members of Columbus Lodge, No. 5, of "Free and accepted Masons," I enclose you twenty dollars; which we beg you to accept as our mite, in aid

of the praiseworthy and philanthropic endeavours of the "American Colonization Society," in removing the Free Blacks from the United States; and of which Society, we are informed you are the Corresponding Secretary.

You will please accept our best wishes for the prosperity of the undertaking.

With sentiments of high regard,

We have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient Servants,

CHARLES H. ABERT,

JOHN B. SIMS,

JOHN H. HAND,

Committee on behalf of Columbus Lodge No. 5.

Connecticut Colonization Society.

The State Colonization Society of Connecticut, the formation of which was announced in our last No., has adopted its Constitution, and chosen the following officers for the present year.

President.

HIS EXCELLENCY GIDEON TOMLINSON, GOVERNOR.

Vice-Presidents.

HON. JOHN THOMPSON PETERS, a Judge of Supreme Court.

BENJAMIN SILLIMAN, Professor of Chymistry in Yale College.

REV. LEONARD BACON, New Haven, *Secretary*.

SETH TERRY, Esquire, Hartford, *Treasurer*.

Managers.

HIS HONOR JOHN S. PETERS, Lieutenant Governor, Hebron.

HON. EBENEZER YOUNG, Speaker House Representatives, Killingly.

REV. JOEL H. LINSLEY, Hartford.

REV. SAMUEL MERWIN, New Haven.

Right Rev. T. C. BROWNELL, President Washington College.

REV. T. H. GALLAUDET, Principal American Asylum, Hartford.

SETH P. BEERS, Esquire, Com. S. Fund, Litchfield.

HON. JOHN ALSOB, Senator, Middletown.

HON. R. I. INGERSOLL, Member Congress, New Haven.

Prospects in Pennsylvania.

The following extract of a letter from a highly respectable gentleman in Meadville, Pennsylvania, accompanying the subjoined paragraphs from the Meadville Messenger of May 24th, (instant) shows that the Colonization Cause is still gaining in public estimation.

“The great object of your Society is so perfectly in harmony with the feelings of the benevolent, the patriotic, and the pious, as to ensure to it, in my mind, final success. Pennsylvania, I feel persuaded, will patronize the grand design.”

“In the sketch I have given of the subject, two objects must more particularly strike your view—the one, that of exciting your feelings and your influence in favour of the measure, and thereby rendering it popular among the people, and in our councils; and the other, the expediency of contributing something towards keeping the noble work not merely alive, but in progression, until the first be so far accomplished as that the general government shall patronize it. A period peculiarly adapted to these objects, is now near at hand; and I sincerely hope, will not pass away without shedding its favours on the interests of Liberia. The 4th of July, a day dear to us as the jubilee of our liberties, let us render it still more so, by a general expression of approbation in our public meetings on that day, of the truly benevolent establishment of the Colony at Liberia—and if sealed with a trifle as a pecuniary aid, it will be still more meritorious; and all who feel thus liberally and piously disposed, may at any time have an opportunity of indulging their noble feelings, by placing such sums as they may please in the hands of JOHN P. DAVIS, Esq., Treasurer of the Crawford County Colonization Society; established here in November last, as auxiliary to the parent Society at Washington City; and of which the Hon. STEPHEN BARLOW is President—and he will enrol their names as members of the Society, and promptly remit their donations to the Parent Society.

“I would merely add—that as *Pennsylvanians*, we cannot but approve the grand design, as it is perfectly in accordance with

the policy of the state, and the feelings of her citizens. I will now leave the subject with you for the present, under a confidence that you will give to it due consideration. I may, perhaps, at no distant day take a further view of it, more particularly in relation to its magnitude and importance, and the resources within the nation to accomplish the great work."

Latest from Liberia.

The Board of Managers have received intelligence from Liberia, up to March 9. The Colony still continues in prosperous circumstances, and, to adopt the language of the Colonial Agent, "enjoys the blessing of peace with all Africa and the world." The following brief sketch of the Schools of the Colony, forms one of the papers received by this arrival.

SCHOOLS OF THE COLONY.

1. *Boys' School at Monroe*

Has been in operation, under different instructors, for three years. It is now conducted by Mr. W. W. Steward—and is attended by twenty-seven boys, all belonging to Monroe. A School Committee of three persons (of whom the Agent is one) is chosen by the vote of the settlers, in a general town-meeting; who choose and employ the Instructor of this School, establish his compensation, and fix the rates of tuition.

The Instructor receives \$25 per month; and the rate of tuition is at present 75 cents per month, each scholar.—Books and stationary, when supplied by the Committee, are an extra charge. Some individual of the Committee visits and inspects the School, weekly. And every person having boys of a suitable age, and neglecting to send them, is waited upon once or twice, quarterly, for his reasons for such neglect. If he allege poverty, and the plea appears entitled to consideration, he receives such aid from the public treasury, as he requires; and his boys are immediately put to School. Mr. S. is a faithful young man—but deficient in several branches very necessary to be taught in his School.

2. Girls' School of Monroe

Has been newly organized the present year, and is in a prosperous way. Branches taught, are reading, writing, spelling, the principles of religion, and needle work. Instructress, Miss E. Jackson—Compensation, \$12 per month—Rate of tuition, 50 cents, under the direction and subject to the visitation of the School Committee. Number of Scholars, per last return, 28. The same aid which is afforded the poor parents of boys, is extended to those of girls.

3. School for liberated African Boys.

This School has been in operation eight months. It consists exclusively of all the male children under 15 years, liberated during the last year by the Agent, and introduced into the Colony. The Instructor attends but three hours daily—and receives a compensation of \$10, paid hitherto out of the fund for defraying the incidental expenses of the U. S. Agency. But since the discharge of these people from the Agency, it has been supported at the expense of the Colony. It is proposed soon to comprehend this School in the other Schools of the Colony. It contains no less than 41 scholars, as per last return.

4. School for liberated African Girls

Instituted at the same time, and supported in the same way, as the last (No. 3). The scholars consist of the girls under 14, found in the different companies of Africans liberated, and introduced into the Colony the last season. Most of these girls can read and spell monosyllables; and several have proceeded to words of three, and even more syllables. They have made still better progress in needle-work. The African Girls discover an aptitude for learning, which the boys do not. But even these last are as docile as settlers' children. Hours of instruction, three, daily. For these two last Schools, a cheap, but commodious house has been erected. The boys are taught in the morning—the girls in the evening. Instructress's compensation, \$8 per month. No. of Scholars, per the last return, 21.

5. Missionary School for Native Children

Taught by the Rev. Messrs. Carey and J. Lewis. Number 45 to 60.—All boys. This School has a house erected for it—

receives occasional contributions of clothing, books, and stationery, from benevolent individuals in the U. States; and is chiefly supported by the Baptist Missionary Society of Richmond, Virginia, by whom Messrs. Carey and Lewis are in part supported. This School deserves encouragement. The hopes of the native tribes, from Galienas to Trade Town, in regard to their moral, religious, and social improvement, are at present suspended on it. Most of the boys who attend it, are sons of the principal individuals of the country; and more than half can now read the New Testament intelligibly, and understand the English language nearly as well as the children of the settlers, of the same age. The number of these interesting learners may be indefinitely increased, if means are supplied;—and with the prospect of vast advantage both to the native population of the country, and the Colony itself. Much credit is due to Messrs. Carey & Lewis for their faithful and persevering labours, in the instruction and management of these youths.

6. *Caldwell School, for both Sexes*

Has been six months in operation. Instructor, Rev. R. H. Sampson. His compensation, the established rate of tuition—be the proceeds less or more. It comprehends most of the American-born children of suitable age, in the settlement. Their number, 35. This is, strictly, a private School; but receives books and other aid from the Agent, who charges himself with its general superintendence.



Death of Dr. John W. Peaco.

It is with deep regret that we have just learned the death of Dr. JOHN W. PEACO, Governmental Agent at Liberia. He was on his return to Africa, to resume the duties of the Agency—having under his charge a number of recaptured Africans, and Colonists—when he was arrested by “the last messenger,” on the 24th inst. at Savannah. His death, particularly at this time, is a stroke that will be severely felt. But we must look to that Providence which has seen fit to remove him, for another to supply his place.

All communications relating to the African Repository, whether for insertion, requesting the work, or discontinuing it, should be *directed* to R. R GURLEY, the Editor, and Secretary of A. C. S.

A number of Copies of the Sixth, Seventh, Ninth, and Tenth Annual Reports, are on hand, and will be sent to any Individuals, who may apply for them to R. R. GURLEY, Secretary.